

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application:           APPLICANTS: M. IZAWA et al  
                                  Serial No. 09/373,723  
                                  Filed: August 13, 1999

Group Art:           1763  
For:           A DRY ETCHING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

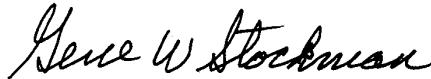
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure, the applicants inform the Examiner of the documents cited during prosecution of the parent application, Serial No. 09/373,723.

The applicants request the Examiner to initial and return a copy of the attached PTO-1449 form as an indication that the references have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 2, 2003

FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. NIP-154-02		SERIAL NO.	
<b>LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT			
				M. IZAWA et al			
				FILING DATE October 2, 2003		GROUP 1763	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
* EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE <i>(If Appropriate)</i>	
AA	6,085,688	07/2000	Lymberopoulos et al				
AB	6,020,268	02/2000	Cheng				
AC	6,194,325 B1	02/2001	Yang et al				
AD	6,228,775 B1	05/2001	Coburn et al				
AE							
AF							
AG							
AH							
AI							
AJ							
AK							
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL	11-102894	04/13/99	Japan			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AM						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</i>							
	AR	Wolf et al., "Silicon Processing for the VLSI Era Volume 1: Process Technology", pages 547-551, 1986, Lattice Press.					
		Partial Machine Translation of JP 11-102894, published 4-13-99.					
	AS						
	AT						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
<small>* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							